

peaceful relations. We rejoice in the knowledge of the fact that there are thousands of white people among us who honestly and earnestly wish us well. They have evidenced this in the most substantial way.

We feel this a fit occasion to appeal to the noble-hearted white people of North Carolina to join with their Negro fellow-citizens in efforts to maintain peace and mutual good-will between all classes, and build up the State in all that may tend to make her great and glorious.

These declarations being unanimously adopted,

Miss Sallie A. Upperman was introduced, who came forward and read in clear and well modulated tones Whittier's *Laus Deo*.

This was followed by the reading of the Proclamation of Emancipation by Hon. J. H. Young, in his fine, ringing voice.

The Orator of the Day, Prof. J. H. Branch, was then introduced, who came forward and delivered a well prepared and eloquent address, often provoking the most hearty applause. Mr. Branch was followed in short and instructive speeches by Messrs. L. B. Hinton, Norfleet Jeffries and W. H. Matthews.

This concluded the speaking.

The following officers were then unanimously elected for 1895:

President—Rev. R. H. W. Leak.

Secretary—C. N. Hunter.

Treasurer—W. F. Debnam.

The music was of a high order, and under the direction of Prof. J. B. Hutchings, with Miss Gertrude E. Leak, of the Kittrell Normal and Industrial Institute gracefully presiding at the piano, assisted by Miss Susie M. Roan, of the Garfield Craded School.

Thus passed one of the grandest days in the history of the Afro-American in Raleigh.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted: